

Lecture Notes in Electrical Engineering 365

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*Editors*

# Proceedings of Second International Conference on Electrical Systems, Technology and Information 2015 (ICESTI 2015)



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Felix Pasila · Yusak Tanoto  
Resmana Lim · Murtiyanto Santoso  
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# Proceedings of Second International Conference on Electrical Systems, Technology and Information 2015 (ICESTI 2015)

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# Contents

## Part I Invited Speaker

- 1 Computational Intelligence Based Regulation of the DC Bus in the On-grid Photovoltaic System** . . . . . 3  
Mauridhi Hery Purnomo, Iwan Setiawan and Ardyono Priyadi
- 2 Virtual Prototyping of a Compliant Spindle for Robotic Deburring** . . . . . 17  
Giovanni Berselli, Marcello Pellicciari, Gabriele Bigi and Angelo O. Andrisano
- 3 A Concept of Multi Rough Sets Defined on Multi-contextual Information Systems** . . . . . 31  
Rolly Intan

## Part II Technology Innovation in Robotics Image Recognition and Computational Intelligence Applications

- 4 Coordinates Modelling of the Discrete Hexapod Manipulator via Artificial Intelligence** . . . . . 47  
Felix Pasila and Roche Alimin
- 5 An Object Recognition in Video Image Using Computer Vision** . . . . . 55  
Sang-gu Kim, Seung-hoon Kang, Joung Gyu Lee and Hoon Jae Lee
- 6 Comparative Study on Mammogram Image Enhancement Methods According to the Determinant of Radiography Image Quality** . . . . . 65  
Erna Alimudin, Hanung Adi Nugroho and Teguh Bharata Adji

<b>7</b>	<b>Clustering and Principal Feature Selection Impact for Internet Traffic Classification Using K-NN. . . . .</b>	<b>75</b>
	Trianggoro Wiradinata and P. Adi Suryaputra	
<b>8</b>	<b>Altitude Lock Capability Benchmarking: Type 2 Fuzzy, Type 1 Fuzzy, and Fuzzy-PID with Extreme Altitude Change as a Disturbance . . . . .</b>	<b>83</b>
	Hendi Wicaksono, Yohanes Gunawan, Cornelius Kristanto and Leonardie Haryanto	
<b>9</b>	<b>Indonesian Dynamic Sign Language Recognition at Complex Background with 2D Convolutional Neural Networks . . . . .</b>	<b>91</b>
	Nehemia Sugianto and Elizabeth Irenne Yuwono	
<b>10</b>	<b>Image-Based Distance Change Identification by Segment Correlation . . . . .</b>	<b>99</b>
	Nemuel Daniel Pah	
<b>11</b>	<b>Situation Awareness Assessment Mechanism for a Telepresence Robot . . . . .</b>	<b>107</b>
	Petrus Santoso and Handry Khoswanto	
<b>12</b>	<b>Relevant Features for Classification of Digital Mammogram Images. . . . .</b>	<b>115</b>
	Erna Alimudin, Hanung Adi Nugroho and Teguh Bharata Adji	
<b>13</b>	<b>Multi-objective Using NSGA-2 for Enhancing the Consistency-Matrix. . . . .</b>	<b>123</b>
	Abba Suganda Girsang, Sfenrianto and Jarot S. Suroso	
<b>14</b>	<b>Optimization of AI Tactic in Action-RPG Game . . . . .</b>	<b>131</b>
	Kristo Radion Purba	
<b>15</b>	<b>Direction and Semantic Features for Handwritten Balinese Character Recognition System . . . . .</b>	<b>139</b>
	Luh Putu Ayu Prapitasari and Komang Budiarta	
<b>16</b>	<b>Energy Decomposition Model Using Takagi-Sugeno Neuro Fuzzy . . . . .</b>	<b>149</b>
	Yusak Tanoto and Felix Pasila	
<b>17</b>	<b>Odometry Algorithm with Obstacle Avoidance on Mobile Robot Navigation . . . . .</b>	<b>155</b>
	Handry Khoswanto, Petrus Santoso and Resmana Lim	

**Part III Technology Innovation in Electrical Engineering,  
Electric Vehicle and Energy Management**

<b>18 Vision-Based Human Position Estimation and Following Using an Unmanned Hexarotor Helicopter . . . . .</b>	<b>165</b>
Jung Hyun Lee and Taeseok Jin	
<b>19 The Role of Renewable Energy: Sumba Iconic Island, an Implementation of 100 Percent Renewable Energy by 2020 . . . . .</b>	<b>173</b>
Abraham Lomi	
<b>20 Electromechanical Characterization of Bucky Gel Actuator Based on Polymer Composite PCL-PU-CNT for Artificial Muscle . . . . .</b>	<b>185</b>
Yudan Whulanza, Andika Praditya Hadiputra, Felix Pasila and Sugeng Supriadi	
<b>21 A Single-Phase Twin-Buck Inverter . . . . .</b>	<b>193</b>
Hanny H. Tumbelaka	
<b>22 Performance Comparison of Intelligent Control of Maximum Power Point Tracking in Photovoltaic System. . . . .</b>	<b>203</b>
Daniel Martomanggolo Wonohadidjojo	
<b>23 Vehicle Security and Management System on GPS Assisted Vehicle Using Geofence and Google Map . . . . .</b>	<b>215</b>
Lanny Agustine, Egber Pangaliela and Hartono Pranjoto	
<b>24 Security and Stability Improvement of Power System Due to Interconnection of DG to the Grid . . . . .</b>	<b>227</b>
Ni Putu Agustini, Lauhil Mahfudz Hayusman, Taufik Hidayat and I. Made Wartana	
<b>25 Solar Simulator Using Halogen Lamp for PV Research . . . . .</b>	<b>239</b>
Aryuanto Soetedjo, Yusuf Ismail Nakhoda, Abraham Lomi and Teguh Adi Suryanto	
<b>26 Artificial Bee Colony Algorithm for Optimal Power Flow on Transient Stability of Java-Bali 500 KV . . . . .</b>	<b>247</b>
Irrine Budi Sulistiawati and M. Ibrahim Ashari	
<b>27 Sizing and Costs Implications of Long-Term Electricity Planning: A Case of Kupang City, Indonesia. . . . .</b>	<b>257</b>
Daniel Rohi and Yusak Tanoto	
<b>28 Dynamic Simulation of Wheel Drive and Suspension System in a Through-the-Road Parallel Hybrid Electric Vehicle . . . . .</b>	<b>263</b>
Mohamad Yamin, Cokorda P. Mahandari and Rasyid H. Sudono	



<b>29</b>	<b>A Reliable, Low-Cost, and Low-Power Base Platform for Energy Management System . . . . .</b>	<b>271</b>
	Henry Hermawan, Edward Oesnawi and Albert Darmaliputra	
<b>30</b>	<b>Android Application for Distribution Switchboard Design . . . . .</b>	<b>279</b>
	Julius Sentosa Setiadji, Kevin Budihargono and Petrus Santoso	
 <b>Part IV Technology Innovation in Electronic, Manufacturing, Instrumentation and Material Engineering</b>		
<b>31</b>	<b>Adaptive Bilateral Filter for Infrared Small Target Enhancement . . . . .</b>	<b>289</b>
	Tae Wuk Bae and Hwi Gang Kim	
<b>32</b>	<b>Innovative Tester for Underwater Locator Beacon Used in Flight/Voyage Recorder (Black Box) . . . . .</b>	<b>299</b>
	Hartono Pranjoto and Sutoyo	
<b>33</b>	<b>2D CFD Model of Blunt NACA 0018 at High Reynolds Number for Improving Vertical Axis Turbine Performance . . . . .</b>	<b>309</b>
	Nu Rhahida Arini, Stephen R. Turnock and Mingyi Tan	
<b>34</b>	<b>Recycling of the Ash Waste by Electric Plasma Treatment to Produce Fibrous Materials . . . . .</b>	<b>319</b>
	S.L. Buyantuev, A.S. Kondratenko, E.T. Bazarsadaev and A.B. Khmelev	
<b>35</b>	<b>Performance Evaluation of Welded Knitted E-Fabrics for Electrical Resistance Heating . . . . .</b>	<b>327</b>
	Senem Kursun Bahadir, Ozgur Atalay, Fatma Kalaoglu, Savvas Vassiliadis and Stelios Potirakis	
<b>36</b>	<b>IP Based Module for Building Automation System . . . . .</b>	<b>337</b>
	J.D. Irawan, S. Prasetyo and S.A. Wibowo	
<b>37</b>	<b>Influence of CTAB and Sonication on Nickel Hydroxide Nanoparticles Synthesis by Electrolysis at High Voltage . . . . .</b>	<b>345</b>
	Yanatra Budipramana, Suprpto, Taslim Ersam and Fredy Kurniawan	
<b>38</b>	<b>Waste Industrial Processing of Boron-Treated by Plasma Arc to Produce the Melt and Fiber Materials . . . . .</b>	<b>353</b>
	S.L. Buyantuev, Ning Guiling, A.S. Kondratenko, Junwei Ye, E.T. Bazarsadaev, A.B. Khmelev and Shuhong Guo	
<b>39</b>	<b>Design of Arrhythmia Detection Device Based on Fingertip Pulse Sensor . . . . .</b>	<b>363</b>
	R. Wahyu Kusuma, R. Al Aziz Abbie and Purnawarman Musa	

<b>40</b>	<b>Analysis of Fundamental Frequency and Formant Frequency for Speaker ‘Makhraj’ Pronunciation with DTW Method . . . . .</b>	<b>373</b>
	Muhammad Subali, Miftah Andriansyah and Christanto Sinambela	
<b>41</b>	<b>Design and Fabrication of “Ha (uM)” Shape-Slot Microstrip Antenna for WLAN 2.4 GHz . . . . .</b>	<b>383</b>
	Srisanto Sotyohadi, Sholeh Hadi Pramono and Moechammad Sarosa	
<b>42</b>	<b>Investigation of the Electric Discharge Machining on the Stability of Coal-Water Slurries . . . . .</b>	<b>393</b>
	S.L. Buyantuev, A.B. Khmelev, A.S. Kondratenko and F.P. Baldynova	
<b>43</b>	<b>A River Water Level Monitoring System Using Android-Based Wireless Sensor Networks for a Flood Early Warning System . . . .</b>	<b>401</b>
	Riny Sulistyowati, Hari Agus Sujono and Ahmad Khamdi Musthofa	
<b>44</b>	<b>The Influence of Depth of Cut, Feed Rate and Step-Over on Surface Roughness of Polycarbonate Material in Subtractive Rapid Prototyping . . . . .</b>	<b>409</b>
	The Jaya Suteja	
<b>45</b>	<b>Adaptive Cars Headlamps System with Image Processing and Lighting Angle Control . . . . .</b>	<b>415</b>
	William Tandy Prasetyo, Petrus Santoso and Resmana Lim	
<b>46</b>	<b>Changes in the Rheological Properties and the Selection of a Mathematical Model of the Behavior of Coal-Water Slurry During Transport and Storage . . . . .</b>	<b>423</b>
	S.L. Buyantuev, A.B. Khmelev and A.S. Kondratenko	
<b>47</b>	<b>Design of a Fetal Heartbeat Detector. . . . .</b>	<b>429</b>
	Nur Sultan Salahuddin, Sri Poernomo Sari, Paulus A. Jambormias and Johan Harlan	
 <b>Part V Technology Innovation in Internet of Things and Its Applications</b>		
<b>48</b>	<b>Network Traffic and Security Event Collecting System. . . . .</b>	<b>439</b>
	Hee-Seung Son, Jin-Heung Lee, Tae-Yong Kim and Sang-Gon Lee	
<b>49</b>	<b>Paper Prototyping for BatiKids: A Technique to Examine Children’s Interaction and Feedback in Designing a Game-Based Learning . . . . .</b>	<b>447</b>
	Hestiasari Rante, Heidi Schelhowe and Michael Lund	

<b>50</b>	<b>Tracing Related Scientific Papers by a Given Seed Paper Using Parscit . . . . .</b>	<b>457</b>
	Resmana Lim, Indra Ruslan, Hansin Susatya, Adi Wibowo, Andreas Handojo and Raymond Sutjiadi	
<b>51</b>	<b>Factors Affecting Edmodo Adoption as Online Learning Medium. . . . .</b>	<b>465</b>
	Iwa Sungkono Herlambangkoro and Trianggoro Wiradinata	
<b>52</b>	<b>Principal Feature Selection Impact for Internet Traffic Classification Using Naïve Bayes. . . . .</b>	<b>475</b>
	Adi Suryaputra Paramita	
<b>53</b>	<b>Study on the Public Sector Information (PSI) Service Model for Science and Technology Domain in South Korea . . . . .</b>	<b>481</b>
	Yong Ho Lee	
<b>54</b>	<b>Digital Natives: Its Characteristics and Challenge to the Library Service Quality . . . . .</b>	<b>487</b>
	Siana Halim, Felecia, Inggrid, Dian Wulandari and Demmy Kasih	
<b>55</b>	<b>Web-Based Design of the Regional Health Service System in Bogor Regency. . . . .</b>	<b>495</b>
	B. Sundari, Revida Iriana and Bertilia Lina Kusrina	
<b>56</b>	<b>Security Handwritten Documents Using Inner Product . . . . .</b>	<b>501</b>
	Syaifudin and Dian Pratiwi	
<b>57</b>	<b>Augmented Reality Technique for Climate Change Mitigation . . . .</b>	<b>511</b>
	Ruswandi Tahrir	
<b>58</b>	<b>Cyber Security for Website of Technology Policy Laboratory . . . .</b>	<b>521</b>
	Jarot S. Suroso	
<b>59</b>	<b>TAM-MOA Hybrid Model to Analyze the Acceptance of Smartphone for Pediatricians in Teaching Hospital in Indonesia. . . . .</b>	<b>529</b>
	Oktri Mohammad Firdaus, Nanan Sekarwana, T.M.A. Ari Samadhi and Kah Hin Chai	
<b>60</b>	<b>Development of the Remote Instrumentation Systems Based on Embedded Web to Support Remote Laboratory . . . . .</b>	<b>537</b>
	F. Yudi Limpraptono and Irmalia Suryani Faradisa	
<b>61</b>	<b>Enhancing University Library Services with Mobile Library Information System . . . . .</b>	<b>545</b>
	Singgih Lukman Anggana and Stephanus Eko Wahyudi	

<b>62</b>	<b>Multi Level Filtering to Classify and Block Undesirable Explicit Material in Website . . . . .</b>	<b>553</b>
	Mohammad Iqbal, Hifshan Riesvicky, Hasma Rasjid and Yulia Charli	
<b>63</b>	<b>Query Rewriting and Corpus of Semantic Similarity as Encryption Method for Documents in Indonesian Language. . . . .</b>	<b>565</b>
	Detty Purnamasari, Rini Arianty, Diana Tri Susetianingtias and Reni Diah Kusumawati	
<b>64</b>	<b>Securing Client-Server Application Design for Information System Inventory . . . . .</b>	<b>573</b>
	Ibnu Gunawan, Djoni Haryadi Setiabudi, Agustinus Noertjahyana and Yongky Hermawan	
<b>Part VI Technology Innovation in Information, Modelling and Mobile Applications</b>		
<b>65</b>	<b>Analyzing Humanitarian Logistic Coordination for Disaster Relief in Indonesia. . . . .</b>	<b>583</b>
	Tanti Octavia, I. Gede Agus Widyadana and Herry Christian Palit	
<b>66</b>	<b>Surakarta Cultural Heritage Management Based on Geographic Information Systems . . . . .</b>	<b>589</b>
	Ery Dewayani and M. Viny Christanti	
<b>67</b>	<b>Gray Code of Generating Tree of <math>n</math> Permutation with <math>m</math> Cycles . . . . .</b>	<b>599</b>
	Sulistyo Puspitodjati, Henny Widowati and Crispina Pardede	
<b>68</b>	<b>Android and iOS Hybrid Applications for Surabaya Public Transport Information. . . . .</b>	<b>607</b>
	Djoni Haryadi Setiabudi and Lady Joanne Tjahyana	
<b>69</b>	<b>Games and Multimedia Implementation on Heroic Battle of Surabaya: An Android Based Mobile Device Application. . . . .</b>	<b>619</b>
	Andreas Handojo, Resmana Lim, Justinus Andjarwirawan and Sandy Sunaryo	
<b>70</b>	<b>Streamlining Business Process: A Case Study of Optimizing a Business Process to Issue a Letter of Assignment for a Lecturer in the University of Surabaya. . . . .</b>	<b>631</b>
	S.T. Jimmy	
<b>71</b>	<b>Design of Adventure Indonesian Folklore Game . . . . .</b>	<b>639</b>
	Kartika Gunadi, Liliana and Harvey Tjahjono	

<b>72</b>	<b>Measuring the Usage Level of the IE Tools in SMEs Using Malcolm Baldrige Scoring System . . . . .</b>	<b>649</b>
	I. Nyoman Sutapa, Togas W.S. Panjaitan and Jani Rahardjo	
<b>73</b>	<b>Enumeration and Generation Aspects of Tribonacci Strings. . . . .</b>	<b>659</b>
	Maukar, Asep Juarna and Djati Kerami	
<b>74</b>	<b>A Leukocyte Detection System Using Scale Invariant Feature Transform Method . . . . .</b>	<b>669</b>
	Lina and Budi Dharmawan	
<b>75</b>	<b>The Diameter of Enhanced Extended Fibonacci Cube Interconnection Networks. . . . .</b>	<b>675</b>
	Ernastuti, Mufid Nilmada and Ravi Salim	
<b>76</b>	<b>Prototype Design of a Realtime Monitoring System of a Fuel Tank at a Gas Station Using an Android-Based Mobile Application . . . . .</b>	<b>685</b>
	Riny Sulityowati and Bayu Bhahtra Kurnia Rafik	

# Introduction

This book includes the original, peer-reviewed research papers from the 2nd International Conference on Electrical Systems, Technology and Information (ICESTI 2015), held during 9–12 September 2015, at Patra Jasa Resort & Villas Bali, Indonesia.

The primary objective of this book is to provide references for dissemination and discussion of the topics that have been presented in the conference. This volume is unique in that it includes work related to Electrical Engineering, Technology and Information towards their sustainable development. Engineers, researchers as well as lecturers from universities and professionals in industry and government will gain valuable insights into interdisciplinary solutions in the field of Electrical Systems, Technology and Information, and its applications.

The topics of ICESTI 2015 provide a forum for accessing the most up-to-date and authoritative knowledge and the best practices in the field of Electrical Engineering, Technology and Information towards their sustainable development. The editors selected high quality papers from the conference that passed through a minimum of three reviewers, with an acceptance rate of 50.6 %.

In the conference there were three invited papers from keynote speakers, whose papers are also included in this book, entitled: “Computational Intelligence based Regulation of the DC bus in the On-Grid Photovoltaic System”, “Virtual Prototyping of a Compliant Spindle for Robotic Deburring” and “A Concept of Multi Rough Sets Defined on Multi-Contextual Information Systems”.

The conference also classified the technology innovation topics into five parts: “Technology Innovation in Robotics, Image Recognition and Computational Intelligence Applications”, “Technology Innovation in Electrical Engineering, Electric Vehicle and Energy Management”, “Technology Innovation in Electronic, Manufacturing, Instrumentation and Material Engineering”, “Technology Innovation in Internet of Things and Its Applications” and “Technology Innovation in Information, Modeling and Mobile Applications”.

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On behalf of the editors

Felix Pasila

**Part I**  
**Invited Speaker**



# Chapter 60

## Development of the Remote Instrumentation Systems Based on Embedded Web to Support Remote Laboratory

F. Yudi Limpraptono and Irmalia Suryani Faradisa

**Abstract** Web-based remote instrumentation is a new innovation in the development of instrumentation equipment that can be accessed remotely over the Internet. The development of remote instrumentation has been started since the invention of internet technology and the development of the remote lab system. Most remote laboratory system architectures that have been published are computer based and usually using LabView application. Computer-based remote instrumentation system has the disadvantages that the investment costs are expensive and it requires large electrical power. In addition, there are several issues related to green computing that demands increased efficiency. To address some of these issues, this research study has developed an embedded web-based remote instrumentation to support remote laboratory system. Implementation of the embedded web-based remote instrumentation system is expected to contribute to improving efficiency and lowering the system's costs.

**Keywords** Remote instrumentation · Embedded-web · Remote laboratory

### 60.1 Introduction

At the end of the 20th century, remote lab is a very active area of research in the development of e-learning, and recently the number of universities working with remote labs has increased [1]. There are several advantages of using remote laboratories, such as laboratory performance will be better and more efficient because students can use laboratory equipment for 24 h. A remote laboratory creates

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autonomous learning [2], allows uses by handicapped students [3], and supports resource sharing and collaboration between laboratories. Various technologies in web programming have been employed to provide a comfortable remote lab environment, such as socket, applet, ajax, corba, labview, etc. [3] Typically the design of the remote laboratory consists of several parts: the first is remote lab management, the second is an experiment module, and the third is the instrumentation equipment [2]. Remote lab management is a web-based application that serves to manage user permission and set up the equipment module. Lab module is an experiment object that can be controlled remotely, that is equipped with IP cameras for object observation. Instrumentation equipment is a device used for measurement or signal generation in the experiment modules such as oscilloscopes, frequency generators, etc. Currently instrumentation equipment widely used for remote labs is conventional measuring instruments or virtual instrumentation based on LabVIEW. Based on the results of journal reviews, it can be inferred that most remote laboratory research projects use a desktop computer, where the investment costs of hardware, software, and maintenance are very high. Electrical energy requirements for servers, computers, monitors, and cooling systems in a computer-based remote laboratory are very significant. A desktop computer requires electrical power on average between 60 and 100 W [4]. Energy consumption for a computer contributes to the rise in greenhouse gas emissions. Every personal computer that is being used produces about one ton of carbon dioxide every year [5]. Based on the background described above, this research aims to design and implement remote instrumentation to support remote laboratory, which has efficient system specifications and is environmentally friendly. Development of remote instrumentation includes the designs of oscilloscope and signal generator that are implemented with embedded system technology, which is expected to increase the efficiency of the system and support Green IT era.

## 60.2 Remote Lab Architecture

The proposed design of the remote instrumentation based on embedded web is integrated with multiuser remote laboratory that has been developed and published in the manuscript titled “New Architecture of Remote Laboratories Multiuser based on Embedded Web Server” [6]. Block diagram of the remote lab architecture is shown in Fig. 60.1. The activities of this research project are divided into two phases. The first phase is the design and implementation of some remote instrumentation system including an oscilloscope and a signal generator; the research activities have been carried out in 2015. The second phase will be the design and implementation of a matrix switch module; the research activities will be carried out in 2016. Matrix switches are a series of switches that can be programmed to connect between the experimental modules and instrumentation equipment. Remote instrumentation design is implemented using the embedded systems based on Raspberry PI.

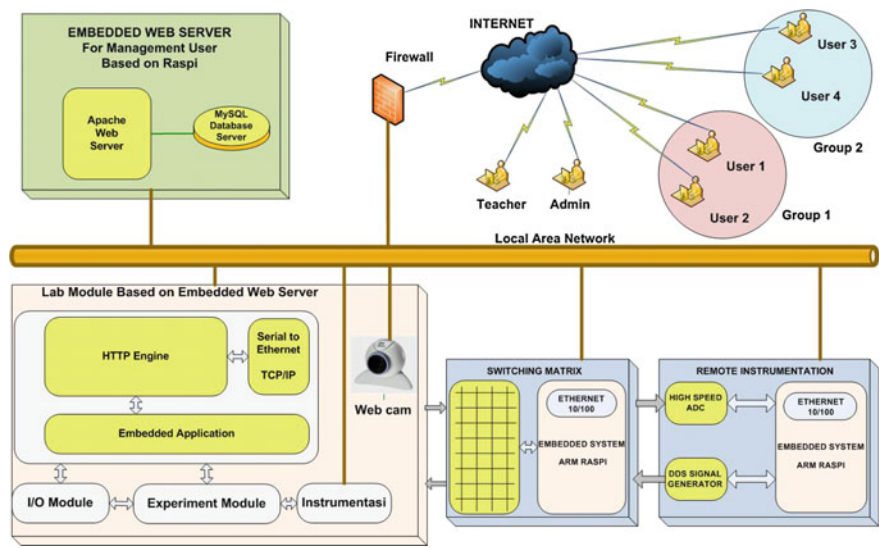


Fig. 60.1 Diagram of the remote lab architecture

60.3 Remote Instrumentation Design

The design of remote instrumentation, as shown in Fig. 60.2, consists of an embedded system based on Raspberry Pi, a DDS (direct digital synthesis) module based on AD9850, and a high-speed data acquisition system based on AD775. The

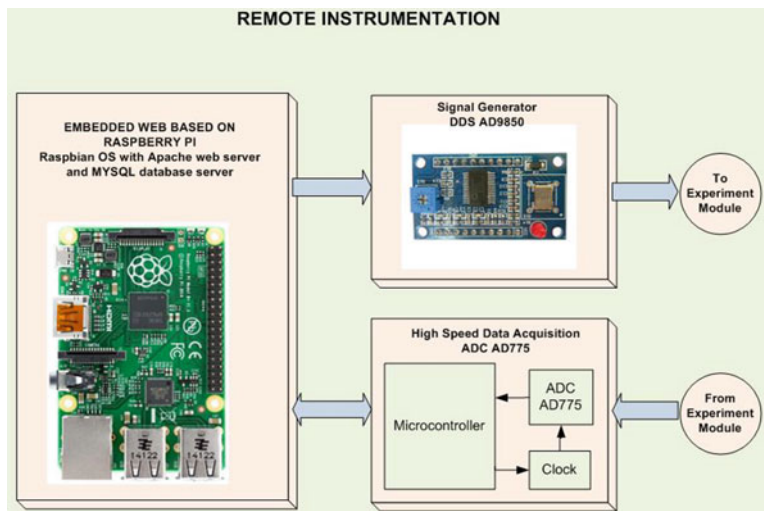


Fig. 60.2 Diagram of the remote instrumentations

Raspberry Pi embedded system functions as a web server to serve requests from the user of the remote lab and to control the DDS and the data acquisition unit. Raspberry Pi is based on the Broadcom BCM2835 system on a chip (SoC), that includes an ARM1176JZFS 700 MHz processor, 512 MB of RAM, and a storage capacity of 8 GB SD card. Raspberry Pi is also equipped with a GPIO, an Ethernet port 10/100 Mbps and a USB port [7]. The operating system used in this research project is embedded Linux Raspbian, and the installed application programs are Apache web server and MySQL database server. The design of the signal generator module uses AD9850. The AD9850 is highly integrated device that uses advanced DDS technology coupled with internal high speed, high performance digital to analog converter and comparator to form a complete, digitally programmable frequency synthesizer and clock generator function. High speed DDS AD9850 provides 32-bit frequency tuning word, which results in an output tuning resolution of 0.0291 Hz for a 125 MHz reference clock input. The AD9850 circuit allows the generation of the output frequency of up to one-half the reference clock frequency (62.5 MHz). The DDS circuitry is basically a digital frequency divider function whose incremental resolution is determined by the frequency of the reference clock divided by the  $2^N$  number of bits in the tuning word. The relationship of the output frequency, reference clock, and tuning word of the AD9850 is determined by the formula [8]:

$$f_{out} = (\Delta Phase \times CLKIN) / 2^{32} \quad (60.1)$$

wheres:

$\Delta Phase$  is the value of the 32-bit tuning word

$CLKIN$  is the input reference clock frequency in MHz

$f_{out}$  is the frequency of the output signal in MHz

The design of a digital oscilloscope uses high speed data acquisition based on AD775. The AD775 is a CMOS, low power, 8-bit data output, 20 MSPS sampling rate analog-to-digital converter (ADC). The AD775 features a built-in sampling function and on-chip reference bias resistors to provide a complete 8-bit ADC solution. The AD775 utilizes a pipelined/ping pong two-step flash architecture to provide high sampling rates (up to 35 MHz) while maintaining very low power consumption (60 mW) [9].

## 60.4 Software Design

The software of the remote instrumentation system is implemented using Python programming language, which is commonly used in embedded Linux operating systems. The following subsections will discuss the flowcharts for DDS AD9850 and data acquisition unit AD775.

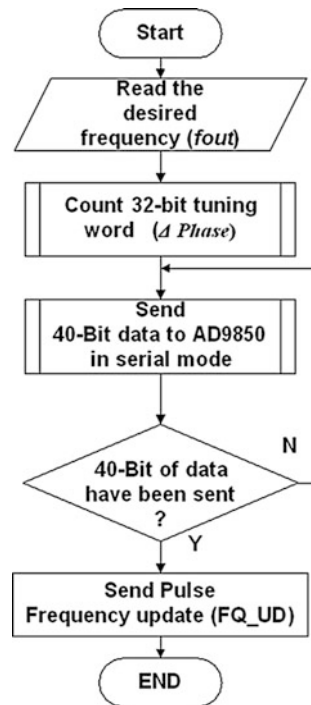
### 60.4.1 Programming the DDS AD9850

The AD9850 contains a 40-bit register that is used to program the 32-bit frequency control word, the 5 bit phase modulation word, and the power down function. The interface between the DDS AD9850 with Raspberry Pi uses serial mode. In the serial mode, subsequent rising edges of W\_CLK shift 1-bit data on Pin 25 (D7) through the 40 bits of programming information. After 40 bits are shifted through, an FQ\_UD pulse is required to update the output frequency (or phase). Flowchart of the AD9850 program is shown in Fig. 60.3.

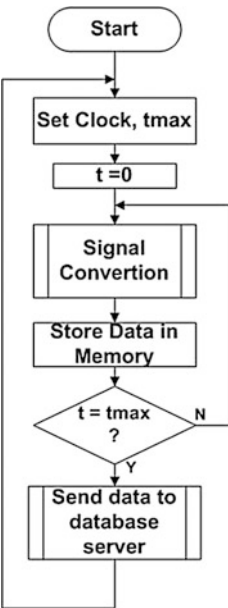
### 60.4.2 Programming the Data Acquisition

The remote oscilloscope unit consists of a data acquisition system and an embedded system based on Raspberry Pi. The data acquisition system consists of a micro-controller, a clock circuit, and ADC AD775. Raspberry Pi serves as web services for the remote oscilloscope. Acquisition process of the analog signal is performed by the data acquisition unit in real-time, and the data are stored in local memory of the oscilloscope. Periodically the data conversion results are sent serially to the

**Fig. 60.3** Flowchart of the AD9850 program



**Fig. 60.4** Flowchart of the DAQ program

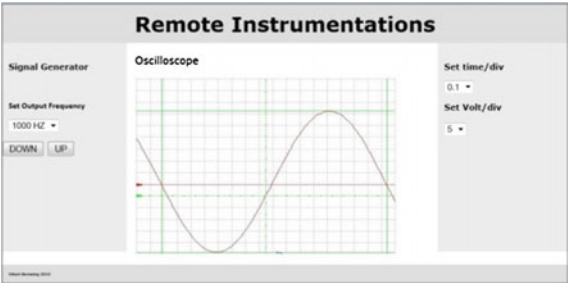


Raspberry Pi to be stored in the database server. Remote users can access the web services provided by Raspberry Pi to view the observed signals, and the signals will always be updated automatically. The flowchart of the DAQ program is shown in Fig. 60.4.

**60.4.3 Web Application of the Remote Instrumentations**

The Web-based remote instrumentation application was developed using PHP and Python programming languages. The application is used to control the hardware instrumentation, such as setting desired frequency parameters in the signal

**Fig. 60.5** Remote instrumentations web page



generator or setting parameters on the oscilloscope (time/div and volt/div), and produce graphic display on the client computer. The remote instrumentations web page is shown in Fig. 60.5.

## 60.5 Conclusion

This paper presents the development of remote instrumentation based on embedded web for supporting a remote laboratory. The aim of the research is to create a prototype of remote instrumentation—consisting of an oscilloscope and a frequency generator—that has highly efficient specifications: low cost, low power, and supporting Green IT. At the time of writing, the research project is still ongoing and the results are expected to contribute to the development of green remote instrumentation system. The instrumentations system can be integrated with the multi-user and multi-device remote laboratories that had been developed previously.

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